

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-14 /114 W

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R 080720Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1808

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 8904

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: REGIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE UNDER NATIONAL DIRECTION

REF: A. HONG KONG 8485; B. HONG KONG 8370; C. HONG KONG 8354

1. IN LINE WITH OTHER SIGNS OF CURRENT CENTRAL CONCERN TO KEEP POTENTIALLY DISRUPTIVE DOMESTIC ISSUES FROM AFFECTING OVERALL GOALS, WE NOTE THAT THE REGIME SEEMS TO BE PAYING INCREASING ATTENTION TO THE EDUCATION SECTOR-- AN AREA WHICH WAS PARTICULARLY EXPLOSIVE LAST YEAR (REFTELS). IN THIS REGARD, KWANGSI PROVINCIAL RADIO (AUGUST 4) REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SCIENCE AND EDUCATION GROUP OF THE STATE COUNCIL, STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE, AND MINISTRY OF FINANCE TAKING PART IN AN EDUCATION CONFERENCE ALONG WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SIX OTHER PROVINCES. THE PROVINCES REPRESENTED INCLUDED THOSE OF THE OLD SOUTH-CENTRAL BUREAU (HONAN, HUPEH, KUNAN, KWANGSI AND KWANGTUNG) PLUS YUNNAN AND KWEICHOW.

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2. WITH THE ABSENCE OF ANY INDICATION OF PARTICULAR PROBLEMS IN EDUCATION IN THIS REGION, THE MEETING MAY BE ONE OF A SERIES OF REGIONAL MEETINGS ON EDUCATION. IN SUCH A SITUATION, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE CENTER HAS JUST ISSUED OR IS CONCERNED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONAL DIRECTIVE.

3. SINCE MID-JULY PROVINCIAL MEDIA DISCUSSION OF EDUCATION HAS FOCUSED ON COLLEGE ENROLLMENT CRITERIA-- BOTH IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNIVERSARY OF CHAIRMAN MAO'S JULY 21, 1968 PRONOUNCEMENT ON EDUCATION TO SELECT STUDENTS FROM AMONG WORKER-PEASANTS AND WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE CURRENT YEAR'S ENROLLMENT EFFORTS. THESE CRITERIA COULD BE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE REGIONAL DISCUSSIONS. CROSS

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